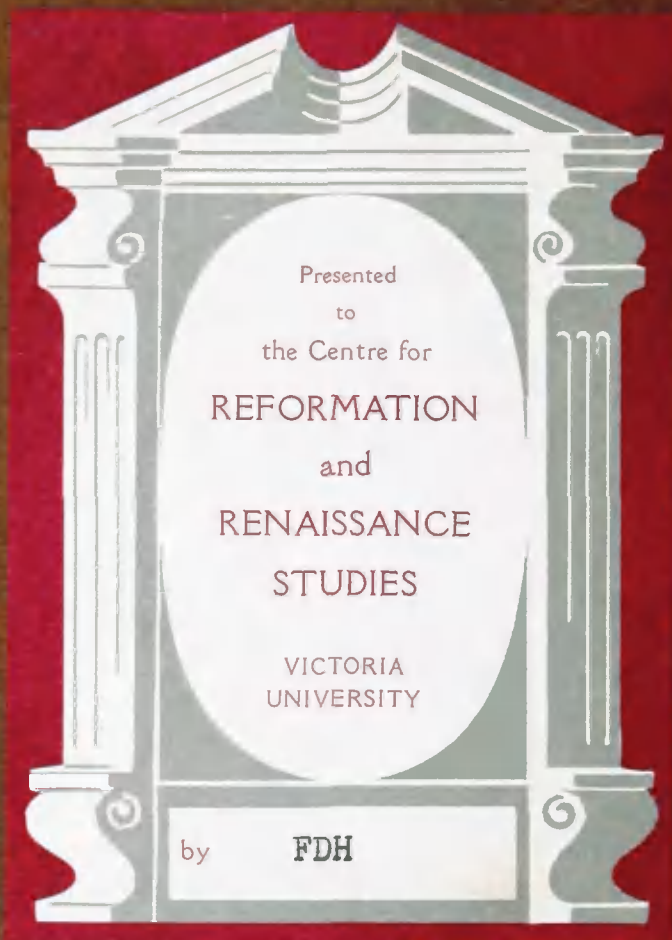


269

LL NO. 333



Triphook's Report

157

156

9/11



Francis Bacon.

THE
FAMOUS HISTORIE
OF
Fryer Bacon.

CONTAINING
THE WONDERFULL THINGS THAT HE DID IN
HIS LIFE: ALSO THE MANNER OF
HIS DEATH;

WITH THE LIVES AND DEATHS OF THE TWO CONIURERS,
BUNGYE AND VANDERMAST.

Very pleasant and delightfull to be read.



PRINTED AT LONDON BY E. A. FOR FRANCIS GROUE, AND
ARE TO BE SOLD AT HIS SHOP, AT THE VPPER-END OF
SNOW-HILL, AGAINST THE SARAZENS HEAD.

DR
2199
F7
1816a

REF. & REN.

acc. no. 333

ADVERTISEMENT.

IT has been more particularly the fate of the earlier authors of great discoveries to be suspected as magicians: the wonder which these discoveries excited, operating upon uncultivated minds in an age of ignorance, naturally led to the conclusion that effects seemingly surpassing mere human powers, were produced by supernatural agency. Hence from the exaggerated accounts of astonished cotemporaries have arisen those popular legends which are attached to the names of some of the brightest luminaries of science, and noblest ornaments of the annals of mankind. Not only philosophers and men of letters, ancient and modern, but even the poet Virgil, has been made the hero of a similar fiction.

Roger Bacon, whose light, like that of a most brilliant phænomenon, was too bright for merely human eyes in that dark age of ignorance, created himself enemies by the splendour of his talents, and the popular prejudice was eagerly seized upon, and augmented by the craft and contrivance of the dissolute and ignorant clergy, whose vices he had attacked. Thus arose the following

fable, which has now for upwards of two centuries amused and astonished "the great vulgar and the small."

The latter impressions have however been much abridged, and it is here printed in all its integrity from an early copy. A drama on the subject from the fertile pen of the unfortunate Robert Green, was printed in 1615.




THE
FAMOUS HISTORIE

OF

Fryer Bacon.

Of the Parents and Birth of Fryer Bacon, and how he addicted himselfe to Learning.

 **B**N most men's opinions he was borne in the West part of *England* and was sonne to a wealthy Farmer, who put him to Schoole to the Parson of the Towne where hee was borne: not with intent that he should turne Fryer (as he did,) but to get so much vnderstanding, that he might manage the better that wealth hee was to leaue him. But young *Bacon* tooke his learning so fast, that the Priest could not teach him any more, which made him desire his Master that he would speake to his Father to put him to *Oxford*, that he might not lose that little learning that hee had gained: his Master was very willing so to doe: and one day meeting his Father, told him, that he had receiued a great blessing of God, in that he had giuen him so wise and hopefull a child, as his sonne *Roger Bacon* was (for so was he named) and wished him withall to doe his duty, and to bring vp so his Child, that hee might shew his thankfulnessse to God, which could not better be done then in making of him a

Scholler; for he found by his sodaine taking of his learning, that hee was a childe likely to proue a very great Clerke: hereat old *Bacon* was not well pleased (for he desired to bring him vp to Plough and to the Cart, as hee himselfe was brought) yet he for reuerence sake to the Priest, shewed not his anger, but kindly thanked him for his paines and counsell, yet desired him not to speake any more concerning that matter; for hee knew best what best pleased himselfe, and that he would doe: so broke they off their talke, and parted.

So soone as the old man came home, he called to his Sonne for his bookes, which when he had, he lock'd them vp, and gaue the Boy a Cart whip in the place of them, saying to him: Boy, I will haue you no priest, you shall not be better learned then I, you can tell now by the Almanack when it is best sowing Wheat, when Barly, Pease, and Beane: and when the best libbing is, when to sell Graine and Cattell I will teach thee; for I haue all Faies and Markets as perfit in my memory, as Sir *John* our Priest has Masse without Booke: take mee this whip, I will teach thee the vse of it, It will be more profitable to thee then this harsh Latin: make no reply, but follow my counsell, or else by the Masse thou shalt feele the smart hand of my anger. Young *Bacon* thought this but hard dealing, yet would he not reply, but within sixe or eight dayes he gaue his Father the slip, and went to a Cloyster some twenty miles off, where he was entertained, and so continued his Learning, and in small time came to be so famous, that he was sent for to the Uniuersity of Oxford, where he long time studied, and grew so excellent in the secrets of Art and Nature, that not England onely, but all Christendome admired him.

How the King sent for Fryer Bacon, and of the wonderfull things he shewed the King and Queene.

THE King being in Oxfordshire, at a Noblemans house, was very desirous to see this famous Fryer, for he had heard many times of his wondrous things that he had done by his Art: therefore hee sent one for him to desire him to come to the Court. Fryer *Bacon* kindly thanked the King by the Messenger, and said, that he was at the Kings seruice, and would suddenly attend him: but, Sir, saith he (to the Gentleman) I pray make you haste, or else I shall be two houres before you at the Court. For all your Learning (answered the Gentleman) I can hardly beleue this, for Schollers, Old-men and Trauellers, may lye by authority. To strengthen your beleefe (said Fryer *Bacon*) I could presently shew you the last Wench that you lay withall, but I will not at this time. One is as true as the other (said the Gentleman) and I would laugh to see either. You shall see them both within these foure houres, quoth the Fryer, and therefore make what haste you can. I will preuent that by my speed (said the Gentleman) and with that rid his way; but he rode out of his way, as it should seem; for he had but fve miles to ride, and yet was he better than three houres a riding them; so that Fryer *Bacon* by his Art was with the king before he came.

The king kindly welcommed him, and said that hee long time had desired to see him; for he had as yet not heard of his life. Fryer *Bacon* answered him that fame had belide him, and giuen him that report that his poore studies had neuer deserued, for hee beleued that Art had many Sonnes more excellent then himselfe was. The King commended him for his modesty, and told him, that nothing did become a wise man lesse then boasting: but yet withall he requested him now to be no niggard of his knowledge, but to shew his Queene and him some of his skill. I were worthy of neither Art or knowledge (quod, Fryer *Bacon*) should I deny your Maiestie this small request: I pray seat yourselues, and you shall see presently what my poore skill can performe: the King, Queene, and Nobles sate them all down. They hauing so done, the Fryer waued his wand, and presently was heard such

Scholler; for he found by his sodaine taking of his learning, that hee was a childe likely to proue a very great Clerke: hereat old *Bacon* was not well pleased (for he desired to bring him vp to Plough and to the Cart, as hee himselfe was brought) yet he for reuerence sake to the Priest, shewed not his anger, but kindly thanked him for his paines and counsell, yet desired him not to speake any more concerning that matter; for hee knew best what best pleased himselfe, and that he would doe: so broke they off their talke, and parted.

So soone as the old man came home, he called to his Sonne for his bookes, which when he had, he lock'd them vp, and gaue the Boy a Cart whip in the place of them, saying to him: Boy, I will haue you no priest, you shall not be better learned then I, you can tell now by the Almanack when it is best sowing Wheat, when Barly, Pease, and Beane: and when the best libbing is, when to sell Graine and Cattell I will teach thee; for I haue all Faires and Markets as perfit in my memory, as Sir *John* our Priest has Masse without Booke: take mee this whip, I will teach thee the vse of it, It will be more profitable to thee then this harsh Latin: make no reply, but follow my counsell, or else by the Masse thou shalt feele the smart hand of my anger. Young *Bacon* thought this but hard dealing, yet would he not reply, but within sixe or eight dayes he gaue his Father the slip, and went to a Cloyster some twenty miles off, where he was entertained, and so continued his Learning, and in small time came to be so famous, that he was sent for to the Uniuersity of Oxford, where he long time studied, and grew so excellent in the secrets of Art and Nature, that not England onely, but all Christendome admired him.

*How the King sent for Fryer Bacon, and of the wonderfull things
he shewed the King and Queene.*

THE King being in Oxfordshire, at a Noblemans house, was very desirous to see this famous Fryer, for he had heard many times of his wondrous things that he had done by his Art: therefore hee sent one for him to desire him to come to the Court. Fryer *Bacon* kindly thanked the King by the Messenger, and said, that he was at the Kings seruice, and would suddenly attend him: but Sir, saith he (to the Gentleman) I pray make you haste, or else I shall be two houres before you at the Court. For all your Learning (answered the Gentleman) I can hardly beleue this, for Schollers, Old-men and Trauellers, may lye by authority. To strengthen your beliefe (said Fryer *Bacon*) I could presently shew you the last Wench that you lay withall, but I will not at this time. One is as true as the other (said the Gentleman) and I would laugh to see either. You shall see them both within these foure houres, quoth the Fryer, and therefore make what haste you can. I will preuent that by my speed (said the Gentleman) and with that rid his way; but he rode out of his way, as it should seem; for he had but fise miles to ride, and yet was he better than three houres a riding them; so that Fryer *Bacon* by his Art was with the king before he came.

The king kindly welcommed him, and said that hee long time had desired to see him; for he had as yet not heard of his life. Fryer *Bacon* answered him that fame had belide him, and giuen him that report that his poore studies had neuer deserued, for hee beleued that Art had many Sonnes more excellent then himselfe was. The King commended him for his modesty, and told him, that nothing did become a wise man lesse then boasting: but yet withall he requested him now to be no niggard of his knowledge, but to shew his Queene and him some of his skill. I were worthy of neither Art or knowledge (quod, Fryer *Bacon*) should I deny your Maiestie this small request: I pray seat yourselues, and you shall see presently what my poore skill can performe: the King, Queene, and Nobles sate them all down. They hauing so done, the Fryer waued his wand, and presently was heard such

excellent Musicke that they were all amazed, for they all said they had neuer heard the like. This is, said the Fryer, to delight the sense of hearing, I will delight all your other sences ere you depart hence: so wauing his wand againe, there was lowder Musicke heard, and presently fise dancers entred, the first like a Court-Laundresse, the second like a footman, the third like an Usurer, the fourth like a Prodigall, the fift like a Foole: these did diuers excellent changes, so that they gaue content to all the beholders, and hauing done their dance, they all vanished away in their order as they came in. Thus feasted he two of their sences; Then waued he his wand againe, and there was another kinde of Musicke heard, and whilest it was playing, there was sodainly before them a Table richly couered with all sorts of delicates: then desired he the King and Queene to taste of some certaine rare fruits that were on the Table, which they and the Nobles there present did, and were very highly pleased with the taste; they being satisfied, all vanished away on the sodaine. Then waued he his wand againe, and sodainly there was such a smell, as if all the rich perfumes in the whole world had bin there prepared in the best manner that Art could set them out: whilst hee feasted thus their smelling, he waued his wand againe, and their came diuers Nations in sundry habits (as Russians, Polanders, Indians, Armenians) all bringing sundry kinds of Furres, such as their Countries yeelded: all which they presented to the King and Queene: these Furres were so soft in the touch, that they highly pleased all those that handled them, then after some odde fantasticke dances (after their Countrey manner) they vanished away: then asked Fryer *Bacon* the King's Majesty, if that hee desired any more of his skill? the King answered that hee was fully satisfied for that time, and that hee onely now thought of something that hee might bestow on him, that might partly satisfie the kindnesse that hee had receiued. Fryer *Bacon* said, that hee desired nothing so much as his Maiesties loue, and if that he might be assured of that, hee would thinke himselfe happy in it: for that (said the King) be thou euer sure of it, in token of which receive this Jewell, and withall gaue him a costly Jewel from his necke. The Fryer did with great reuerence thanke

his Majestie, and said: as your Maiesties vassall you shall euer finde me ready to do you seruice, your time of neede shall finde it both beneficiall and delightfull. But amongst all these Gentlemen, I see not the man that your Grace did send for me by, sure he hath lost his way, or else met with some sport that detaines him so long, I promised to be here before him, and all this noble Assembly can witness I am as good as my word: I heare him comming: with that entered the Gentleman all bedurted (for he had rid through ditches, quagmires, plashes, and waters, that hee was in a most pittifull case) he seeing the Fryer there looked full angerly, and bid a poxe on all his Devils, for they had led him out of his way, and almost drowned him. Be not angry Sir (said Fryer *Bacon*) here is an old friend of yours that hath more cause: for she hath tarried these three houres for you (with that hee pulled vp the Hangings, and behinde them stood a kitchin-mayde with a basting-ladle in her hand) now am I as good as my word with you: for I promised to helpe you to your sweetheart, how do you like this? So ill, answered the Gentleman, that I will be reuenged of you. Threaten not (said Fryer *Bacon*) least I do you more shame, and doe you take heed how you giue schollers the lye againe: but because I know not how well you are stored with money at this time, I will bear your wenches charges home: with that she vanished away: the King, Queene, and all the company laughed to see with what shame this Gentleman indured the sight of his greasie sweetheart: but the Gentleman went away discontented. This done Fryer *Bacon* tooke his leaue of the King and Queene, and receiued from them diuers gifts (as well as thanks) for his Art he shewed them.

How Fryer Bacon deceiued his Man, that would fast for his conscience sake.

FRYER *Bacon* had one onely man to attend on him, and he too was none of the wisest, for he kept him in charity, more then for any seruice he had of him. This man of his (named *Miles*) neuer could indure to fast as other religious persons did,

for alwayes hee had in one corner, or another, flesh which hee would eate when his Maister eat bread only, or else did fast and abstaine from all things. Fryer *Bacon* seeing this, thought at one time or other to be euen with him, which he did one Fryday in this manner, *Miles* on the Thursday night had prouided a great blacke-pudding for his Frydayes fast: this pudding put he in his pocket (thinking belike to heate it so, for his Maister had no fire on those dayes) on the next day, who was so demure as *Miles*, hee looked as though hee would not haue eat any thing: when his Maister offerd him some bread, hee refused it, saying his sinnes deserved a greater penance then one dayes fast in a whole weeke: his Maister commended him for it, and bid him take heed that he did not dissemble: for if he did, it would at last be knowne; then were I worse then a Turke said *Miles*: so went he forth as if he would haue gone to pray priuately, but it was for nothing but to prey vpon his blacke pudding; that pulled he out, (for it was halfe roasted with the heate) and fell to it lustily; but he was deceiued, for hauing put one end in his mouth, he could neither get it out againe nor bite it off, so that hee stamped out for helpe: his Maister hearing him, came; and finding him in that manner, tooke hold of the other end of the pudding, and led him to the hall, and shewed him to all the Schollers, saying: See here my good friends and fellow Students what a deuout man my seruant *Miles* is, he loueth not to break a fast day, wittenesse this pudding that his conscience will not let him swallow: I will haue him to be an example for you all, then tyed hee him to a window by the end of the pudding, where poore *Miles* stood like a Beare tyed by the nose to a stake, and indured many floutes and mockes: at night his Maister released him from his penance; *Miles* was glad of it, and did vow neuer to breake more fast dayes whilst that he liued.

How Fryer Bacon saued a Gentleman that had giuen himselfe to the Deuill.

IN *Oxfordshire* there lived a Gentleman, that had through his riotous expences wasted a faire Inheritance that was left him by his father: After which hee grew so poore, that he had not wherewith to buy himselfe so much bread as would mainteine his miserable life: the memory of his former state that hee had liued in, and the present want that he now sustained, made him to grow desperate and regardlesse both of his soule and bodies estate: which gaue the Deuill occasion to worke vpon his weaknesse in this manner following.

On a time, hee being alone full of grieffe and care, (grieffe for his folies past, and care how to get a poore liuing for the remainder of his dayes) the Deuill came to him and asked him what hee wanted (hee came not in a shape terrible, but like an old penny-father.) This Gentleman was amazed at his sodaine presence, but hearing him demand of his wants, hee tooke to him courage and said: I want all things, I want money to buy my apparell, money to buy mee meat, money to redeeme my Land, and money to pay my debts: Can or will you helpe mee in this misery? I will answered the Deuill, on some conditions helpe you to money for to supply all these wants, and that sodainly. On any condition, said the Gentleman, helpe mee, and I swear for to performe them: I take no oathes (answered the Deuill) I must haue bonds, if you will doe so, meet mee by the Woods side to morrow morning, and there I will haue the moneys ready: I will said the Gentleman (for hee poore man was glad of it on any conditions, as he said before.) The next day hee went to the Wood where the Deuill had promised to meet him: long had hee not beene there, but he beheld the Deuil comming, and after him two other like Seruingmen with Bagges of money: this reioyced the poore Gentlemans heart to thinke that hee should once againe liue like a man. The Deuill comming to him said: sonne I will performe my promise vnto you if that you will seale to the conditions that I haue here already drawne: willingly

said the Gentleman, I will, I pray read them. The Deuill read them to this effect: that he lent him so much money as he should haue need of, to be imployed to these vses following: First, to redeeme his morgag'd Land: next to pay his debts: lastly, to buy him such necessaries as hee wanted: this to be lent on this condition, that so soone as he had paid all his debts, that he should be at the lenders disposing, and without any delay, freely to yeeld himselfe to him vpon the first demand of the aforesaid lender. To this the Gentleman sealed, and had the money carried to his Chamber, with which money hee in short time redeemed his Land, and bought such things as he needed, and likewise payed all his debts, so that there was not any man that could aske him one penny.

Thus liued this Gentleman once againe in great credit, and grew so great a husband that he increased his estate, and was richer then euer his father before him was: but long did this ioy of his not continue, for one day hee beeing in his Studie the Deuil appeared vnto him, and did tell him that now his Land was redeemed, and his debts paid, and therefore the time was come that hee must yeeld himselfe to his mercy, as hee was bound by bond. This troubled the Gentleman to heare, but more to thinke how that he must become a slaue to a stranger that hee did not know (for hee knew not as yet that he was the Deuill) but being vrged to answer for himselfe (by the Deuill) hee said that hee had not as yet paid all his debts, and therefore as yet hee was not liable to the bonds strait conditions. At this the Deuill seemed angry and with a fearefull noyse transformed himselfe to an vgly shape, saying, Alas poore wretch, these are poore excuses that thou framest, I know them all to be false, and so will proue them to thy face to morrow morning, till when I leaue thee to despaire: So with great noyse he went his way, leauing the Gentleman halfe dead with feare.

When he was gone, the Gentleman reuiuing bethought himselfe in what a miserable state he was now in, then wished he that he had liued and died poorely, then cursed he all his ambitious thoughts, that led him first to desire againe that wealth which he had so vainly by his riot lost: then would hee curse

his prodigall expences that were the originall of all his misery: thus was he tormented along time in his minde, at last he fully resolued to end his wretched life by some violent death, and to that end he went forth thinking to kill himselfe, which he had done, had it not beene for the Fryer: for as he was falling vpon his sword, Fryer *Bacon* came by and called to him to hold, which he did. Fryer *Bacon* demanded of him the cause why he was so desperate that he would run headlong to hell? O sir, said he, the cause is great, and the relation is so terrible to me, that I would intreat you not to trouble me any more, but to leaue me to my owne will: his answer filled the Fryer with amazement and pittie both at once, which made him to urge him in this manner. Sir, should I leaue you to this wilfull damnation, I were vnfit euer hereafter to weare or touch any robe that belongeth vnto the holy Order, whereof I am a Brother: you know (I doubt not) that there is giuen power to the Church to absolue penitent sinners, let not your wilfulnesse take away from you that benefit which you may receiue by it: freely confesse your selfe (I pray) you vnto me, and doubt not but I shall giue your troubled conscience ease: Father (said this Gentleman) I know all that you haue spoken is truth, and I haue many times receiued comfort from the mother Church, (I dare not say our, for I feare that shee will neuer receiue me for a childe) I haue no part in her benediction, yet since you request so earnestly the cause, I will tell you, heare it and tremble. Know then that I haue giuen my selfe to the Deuill for a little wealth, and he to morrow in this Wood must haue me: now haue you my grieffe, but I know not how to get comfort. This is strange (quoth Fryer *Bacon*,) yet be of good comfort, penitentiall teares may doe much, which see you doe not spare; soone I will visit you at your house, and giue you that comfort (I hope) that will beget you againe to goodnesse: the Gentleman with these words was somewhat comforted and returned home. At night Fryer *Bacon* came to him, and found him full of teares for his haynous offences, for these teares he gaue him hope of pardon, demanded further what conditions hee had made with the Deuill: the Gentleman told him, how that he had promised himselfe to him so soone as hee had paid

all his debts: which he now had done, for he owed not one peny to any man liuing. Well said Fryer *Bacon*, continue thy sorrow for thy sinnes, and to morrow meete him without feare, and be thou content to stand to the next mans iudgement that shall come that way, whether thou doest belong to the Deuill or no: feare not, but do so, and be thou assured that I will be he that shall come by, and will giue such iudgement on thy side, that thou shalt bee free from him: with that Fryer *Bacon* went home, and the Gentleman went to his prayers.

In the morning the Gentleman (after that hee had blessed himselfe) went to the Wood where he found the Deuill ready for him, so soone as he came neere, the Deuill said, now deceiuer are you come, now shall thou see that I can and will proue that thou hast paid all thy debts, and therefore thy soule belongeth to me. Thou art a deceiuer (said the Gentleman) and gauest me money to cheat me of my soule, for else why wilt thou be thy own Judge: let me haue some other to iudge betweene vs. Content said the Deuill, take whom thou wilt: then I will haue (said the Gentleman) the next man that commeth this way: hereto the Deuill agreed. No sooner were these words ended, but Fryer *Bacon* came by, to whom this Gentleman speake, and requested, that he would be iudge in a waighty matter betweene them two: the Fryer said, he was content, so both parties were agreed: the Deuill said they were, and told Fryer *Bacon* how the case stood betweene them in this manner.

Know Fryer, that I seeing this prodigall like to starue for want of food, lent him money, not onely to buy him victuals, but also to redeeme his lands and pay his debts, conditionarily that so soone as his debts were paid, that hee should giue himselfe freely to mee, to this, here is his hand (shewing him the Bond) now my time is expired, for all his debts are paid, which hee cannot denie. This case is plaine, if it be so that his debts are paid: his silence confirmes it said the Diuell, therefore giue him a iust sentence. I will said Fryer *Bacon*: But first tell me (speaking to the Gentleman) didst thou neuer yet giue the Deuill any of his mony backe, nor requite him any wayes: neuer had hee any thing of me as yet (answered the Gentleman) then neuer let him

haue any thing of thee and thou art free; Deceiuer of mankind, said he (speaking to the Deuill) it was thy bargaine, neuer to meddle with him so long as hee was indebted to any, now how canst thou demand of him any thing, when he is indebted for all that hee hath to thee, when hee payeth thee thy money, then take him as thy due; till then thou hast nothing to doe with him: and so I charge thee to be gone. At this, the Deuill vanished with great horror, but Fryer *Bacon* comforted the Gentleman, and sent him home with a quiet conscience, bidding him neuer to pay the Deuils money backe as he tendred his owne safety: which he promised for to obserue.

How Fryer Bacon made a Brasen head to speake, by the which hee would haue walled England about with Brasse.

FRYER *Bacon* reading one day of the many conquests of England, bethought himselfe how hee might keepe it hereafter from the like conquests, and so make himselfe famous hereafter to all posterities. This (after great study) hee found could be no way so well done as one; which was to make a head of Brasse, and if he could make this head to speake (and heare it when it speakes) then might hee be able to wall all England about with Brasse. To this purpose hee got one Fryer *Bungey* to assist him, who was a great Scholler and a Magician, (but not to bee compared to Fryer *Bacon*) these two with great study and paines so framed a head of Brasse, that in the inward parts thereof there was all things like as in a naturall mans head: this being done, they were as farre from perfection of the worke as they were before, for they knew not how to giue those parts that they had made motion, without which it was impossible that it should speake: many bookes they read, but yet could not finde out any hope of what they sought, that at the last they concluded to raise a spirit, and to know of him that which they could not attaine to by their owne studies. To do this they prepared all things ready and went one Euening to a Wood thereby, and after

many ceremonies vsed, they spake the words of coniuration, which the Deuill straight obeyed and appeared vnto them, asking what they would? know, said Fryer *Bacon* that wee haue made an artificiall head of Brasse, which we would haue to speake, to the furtherance of which wee haue raised thee, and being raised, wee will here keepe thee, vnlesse thou tell to vs the way and manner how to make this Head to speake. The Deuill told him that he had not that power of himselfe: beginner of lyes (said Fryer *Bacon*) I know that thou dost dissemble, and therefore tell it vs quickly, or else wee will here bind the to remaine during our pleasures. At these threatnings the Deuill consented to doe it, and told them, thet with a cōtinual fume of the six hottest Simples it should haue motion, and in one month space speake, the Time of the moneth or day hee knew not: also hee told them, that if they heard it not before it had done speaking, all their labour should be lost: they being satisfied, licensed the Spirit for to depart.

Then went these two learned Fryers home againe, and prepared the Simples ready, and made the fume, and with continuall watching attended when this Brasen head would speake: thus watched they for three weekes without any rest, so that they were so weary and sleepy, that they could not any longer refrain from rest: then called Fryer *Bacon* his man *Miles*, and told him, that it was not vnknown to him what paines Fryer *Bungy* and himselfe had taken for three weekes space, onely to make, and to heare the Brasen-head speake, which if they did not, then had they lost all their labour, and all England had a great losse thereby: therefore hee intreated *Miles* that he would watch whilst that they slept, and call them if the Head speake. Feare not, good Master (said *Miles*) I will not sleepe, but harken and attend vpon the head, and if it doe chance to speake, I will call you: therefore I pray take you both your rests and let mee alone for watching this head. After Fryer *Bacon* had given him a great charge the second time: Fryer *Bungy* and he went to sleepe, and *Miles*, alone to watch the Brasen head: *Miles*, to keepe him from sleeping, got a Tabor and Pipe, and being merry disposed, sung this Song to a Northren tune.

Of Cam'st thou not from New-Castle.

To couple is a custome,
all things thereto agree:
Why should not I then loue?
since loue to all is free.

But Ile haue one that's pretty,
her cheekes of scarlet die?
For to breed my delight,
when that I ligge her by.

Though vertue be a Dowry,
yet Ile chuse money store:
If my loue proue vntrue,
with that I can get more.

The faire is oft vnconstant,
the blacke is often proud.
Ile chuse a louely browne,
come fidler scrape thy crowd.

Come fidler scrape thy crowd,
for *Peggie* the browne is she,
Must be my Bride, God guide
that *Peggie* and I agree.

With his owne Musicke, and such Songs as these spent he his time, and kept from sleeping at last. After some noyse the Head spake these two words, *Time is*. *Miles* hearing it to speake no more, thought his Master would be angry if hee waked him for that, and therefore he let them both sleepe, and began to mocke the Head in this manner: Thou Brazen-faced Head, hath my Master tooke all this paines about thee, and now dost thou requite him with two words, *Time is*: had hee watched with a Lawyer so long as he hath watched with thee, he would haue giuen him more, and better words then thou hast yet, if thou canst speake

no wiser, they shal sleepe till doomes day for me: *Time is*: I know *Time is*, and that you shall heare good man Brazen face.

To the tune of Daintie come thou to me.

Time is for some to plant,
Time is for some to sowe;
Time is for some to graft
The horne as some doe know.

Time is for some to eate,
Time is for some to sleepe,
Time is for some to laugh,
Time is for some to weepe.

Time is for some to sing,
Time is for some to pray,
Time is for some to creepe,
That haue drunke all the day.

Time is to cart a Bawd,
Time is to whip a Whore,
Time is to hang a Theefe,
And time is for much more.

Doe you tell vs Copper-nose, when *Time is*, I hope we Schollers know our Times, when to drinke drunke, when to kisse our Hostes, when to goe on her score, and when to pay it, that time comes seldome. After halfe an houre had passed, the Head did speake againe, two words, which were these: *Time was*. Miles respected these words as little as he did the former, and would not wake them, but still scoffed at the Brasen head, that it had learned no better words, and haue such a Tutor as his Master: and in scorne of it sung this Song.

To the tune of a rich Merchant man.

Time was when thou a Kettle
wert fill'd with better matter :
But Fryer *Bacon* did thee spoyle,
when he thy sides did batter.

Time was when conscience dwelled
with men of occupation :
Time was when Lawyers did not thriue,
so well by mens vexation.

Time was when Kings and Beggers
of one poore stuffe had being :
Time was when office kept no Knaues :
that time it was worth seeing.

Time was a bowle of water,
did giue the face reflection,
Time was when women knew no paint :
which now they call Complexion.

Time was: I know that Brazen-face, without your telling, I know Time was, and I know what things there was when Time was, and if you speake no wiser, no Master shall be waked for mee. Thus *Miles* talked and sung till another halfe houre was gone, then the Brazen-head spake againe these words; *Time is past*: and there with fell downe, and presently followed a terrible noyse, with strange flashes of fire, so that *Miles* was halfe dead with feare: At this noyse the two Fryers awaked, and wondred to see the whole roome so full of smoake, but that being vanished they might perceiue the Brazen-head broken and lying on the ground: at this sight they griued, and called *Miles* to know how this came. *Miles* halfe dead with feare, said that it fell downe of itselfe, and that with the noyse and fire that followed hee was almost frighted out of his wits: Fryer *Bacon* asked him if hee did not speake? yes (quoth *Miles*) it spake, but to no pur-

pose, Ile haue a Parret speake better in that time that you haue been teaching this Brazen head. Out on thee villaine (said Fryer *Bacon*) thou hast vndone vs both, hadst thou but called us when it did speake, all *England* had been walled round about with Brasse, to its glory, and our eternal fames: what were the words it spake: very few (said *Miles*) and those were none of the wisest that I haue heard neither: first he said, *Time is*. Hadst thou call'd vs then (said Fryer *Bacon*) we had been made for euer: then (said *Miles*) half an hour after it spake againe and said, *Time was*. And wouldst thou not call us then (said *Bungey*?) Alas (said *Miles*) I thought he would haue told me some long Tale, and then I purposed to haue called you: then half an houre after he cried *Time is past*, and made such a noyse, that hee hath waked you himselve mee thinkes. At this Fryer *Bacon* was in such a rage, that hee would haue beaten his man, but he was restrained by *Bungey*: but neuerthelesse for his punishment, he with his Art struck him dumbe for one whole months space. Thus that great worke of these learned Fryers was ouerthrown (to their great griefes) by this simple fellow.

How Fryer Bacon by his art took a Towne, when the King had lyen before it three months, without doing to it any hurt.

IN those times when Fryer *Bacon* did all his strange trickes, the Kings of *England* had a great part of *France*, which they held a long time, till ciuill warres at home in this Land made them to lose it: it did chance that the King of *England* (for some cause best knowne to himselve) went into *France* with a great Armie, where after many victories, he did besiege a strong Towne, and lay before it full three moneths, without doing to the Towne any great damage, but rather received the hurt himselve. This did so vexe the King, that he sought to take it in any way, either by policy or strength: To this intent hee made Proclamation, that whosoever could deliuer this Towne into his hand, hee should haue for his paines ten thousand Crownes truly paid. This was proclaimed, but there was none found that would

undertake it: At length the newes did come into *England* of this great reward that was promised. Fryer *Bacon* hearing of it, went into *France*, and being admitted to the Kings presence, hee thus spake unto him: Your Maiestie I am sure hath not quite forgot your poore subject *Bacon*, the love that you shewed to mee being last in your presence, hath drawne mee for to leave my Countrey, and my Studies, to doe your Maiestis seruice: I beseech your Grace, to command mee so farre as my poore Art or life may doe you pleasure. The King thanked him for his love, but told him, that hee had now more need of Armes than Art, and wanted braue Souldiers more than learned Schollers. Fryer *Bacon* aswered, Your Grace saith well; but let mee (vnder correction) tell you, that Art oftentimes doth those things that are impossible to Armes, which I will make good in some few examples. I will speak onely of things performed by Art and Nature, wherein shall be nothing Magical: and first by the figuration of Art, there may be made Instruments of Nauigation without men to rowe in them, as great ships, to brooke the Sea, only with one man to steere them, and they shall sayle far more swiftly than if they were full of men: Also Chariots that shall move with an unspeakable force, without any living creature to stirre them. Likewise, an Instrument may be made to fly withall, if one sit in the midst of the Instrument, and doe turne an engine, by which the wings being Artificially composed, may beat ayre after the manner of a flying Bird. By an Instrument of three fingers high, and three fingers broad, a man may rid himself and others from all Imprisonment: yea, such an Instrument may easily be made, whereby a man may violently draw unto him a thousand men, will they, nill they, or any other thing. By Art also an Instrument may bee made, where with men may walke in the bottome of the Sea or Rivers without bodily danger: this *Alexander* the Great vsed (as the Ethnick phylosopher reporteth) to the end he might behold the Secrets of the Seas. But Physi-call Figurations are farre more strange: for by that may be framed Perspects and Looking-glasses, that one thing shall appeare to be many, as one man shall appeare to be a whole Army, and one Sunne or Moone shall seem diuers. Also perspects

may be so framed, that things farre off shall seem most nigh vnto vs: With one of these did *Iulius Cæsar* from the Sea coasts in *France* marke and obserue the situation of the Castles in *England*. Bodies may also be so framed, that the greatest things shall appeare to be the least, the highest lowest, the most secret to bee the most manifest, and in such like sort the contrary. Thus did *Socrates* perceiue, that the Dragon which did destroy the Citie and Countrey adioyning, with his noisome breath, and contagious influence, did lurke in the dennes between the Mountaines: and thus may all things that are done in Cities or Armies be discovered by the enemies. Againe, in such wise may bodies be framed, that venemous and infectious influences may be brought whither a man will: In this did *Aristotle* instruct *Alexander*; through which instruction the poyson of a Basiliske, being lift vp vpon the wall of a Citie, the poison was conuayd into the Citie, to the destruction thereof: Also perspectes may be made to deceiue the sight, as to make a man beleue that hee seeth great store of riches, when that there is not any. But it appertaineth to a higher power of Figuration, that beames should be brought and assembled by diuers flexions and reflexions in any distance that we will, to burne any thing that is opposite vnto it, as it is witnessed by those Perspectes or Glasses that burne before and behinde: But the greatest and chiefest of all figurations and things figured, is to describe the heavenly bodies, according to their length and breadth in a corporall figure, wherein they may corporally moue with a daily motion. These things are worth a kingdome to a wise man. These may suffise, my royall Lord, to shew what Art can doe: and these, with many things more, as strange, I am able by Art to performe. Then take no thought for winning this Towne, for by my Art you shall (ere many dayes be past) haue your desire.

The King all this while heard him with admiration: but hearing him now, that hee would vndertake to win the Towne, hee burst out in these speeches: Most learned *Bacon*, doe but what thou hast said, and I will give thee what thou most desirest, either wealth, or honour, choose which thou wilt, and I will be as ready to performe, as I have been to promise.

Your Maiesties love is all that I seeke (said the Fryer, let mee haue that, and I haue honour enough, for wealth, I have content, the wise should seek no more: but to the purpose. Let your Pioniers raise up a mount so high, (or rather higher) than the wall, and then shall you see some probability of that which I haue promised.

This Mount in two days was raised: then Fryer *Bacon* went with the King to the Top of it, and did with a perspect shew to him the Towne, as plainley as if hee had beene in it: at this the King did wonder, but Fryer *Bacon* told him, that he should wonder more, ere next day noone: against which Time, he desired him to have his whole Army in readinesse, for to scale the wall upon a signal given by him, from the Mount. This the King promised to doe, and so returned to his Tent full of Joy, that he should gain this strong Towne. In the morning Fryer *Bacon* went up to the Mount and set his Glasses, and other Instruments up: in the meane time the King ordered his Army, and stood in a readinesse for to give the assaults: when the signal was given, which was the wauing of a flagge: Ere nine of the clocke Fryer *Bacon* had burnt the State-house of the Towne, with other houses only by his Mathematicall Glasses, which made the whole Towne in an vprere, for none did know how it came: whilst that they were quenching of the same Fryer *Bacon* did waue his Flagge: vpon which signall giuen, the King set vpon the Towne, and tooke it with little or no resistance. Thus through the Art of this learned man the King got this strong Towne, which hee could not doe with all his men without Fryer *Bacons* helpe.

How Fryer Bacon ouer-came the German Coniurer Vandermast, and made a Spirit of his owne carry him into Germany.

THE King of England after hee had taken the Town shewed great mercy to the Inhabitants, giuing some of them their liues freely, and others hee set at liberty for their Gold: the Towne hee kept as his owne, and swore the chiefe

Citizens to be his true Subjects. Presently after the King of France sent an ambassadour to the King of England for to intreat a peace betweene them. This Ambassadour being come to the King, he feasted him (as it is the manner of Princes to doe) and with the best sports as he had then, welcomed him. The Ambassadour seeing the King of England so free in his Loue, desired likewise to giue him some taste of his good liking, and to that intent sent for one of his fellowes (being a Germane, and named *Vandermast*) a famous coniurer, who being come, hee told the King, that since his Grace had been so bountifull in his loue to him, he would shew him (by a servant of his) such wonderfull things that his Grace had neuer seene the like before. The King demaunded of him of what nature those things were that hee would doe: The Ambassadour answered that they were things done by the Art of Magicke. The King hearing of this, sent straight for Fryer *Bacon*, who presently came, and brought Fryer *Bungey* with him.

When the Banquet was done, *Vandermast* did aske the King, if he desired to see the Spirit of any man deceased: and if that hee did, hee would raise him in such manner and fashion as he was in when that hee lived. The King told him, that above all men he desired to see *Pompey* the Great, who could abide no equall. *Vandermast* by his Art raised him, armed in such manner as hee was when he was slaine at the battell of *Pharsalia*; at this they were all highly contented. Fryer *Bacon* presently raised the ghost of *Iulius Cæsar*, who could abide no Superiour, and had slaine this *Pompey* at the Battell of *Pharsalia*: At the sight of him they were all amazed, but the King who sent for *Bacon*; and *Vandermast* said that there was some man of Art in that presence, whom he desired to see. Fryer *Bacon* then shewed himselfe, saying; It was I *Vandermast*, that raised *Cæsar*, partly to giue content to this Royall presence, but chiefly for to conquer thy *Pompey*, as he did once before, at that great Battell of *Pharsalia*, which he now againe shall doe. Then presently began a fight between *Cæsar* and *Pompey*, which continued a good space, to the content of all, except *Vandermast*. At last *Pompey* was ouer come and slaine by *Cæsar*: then vanished they both away.

My Lord Ambassadour (said the King) me thinks that my Englishman has put down your German: hath he no better cunning than this? Yes, answered *Vandermast*, your Grace shall see me put downe your Englishman, ere that you goe from hence: and therefore Fryer prepare thy selfe with thy best of Art to withstand me. Alas, said Fryer *Bacon*, it is a little thing will serue to resist thee in this kind. I have here one that is my inferior (shewing him Fryer *Bungey*) try thy Art with him: and if thou doe put him to the worst, then will I deale with thee, and not till then.

Fryer *Bungey* then began to shew his Art: and after some turning and looking in his Booke, he brought up among them the *Hysperian* Tree, which did beare golden Apples: these Apples were kept by a waking Dragon, that lay under the Tree: He hauing done this, bid *Vandermast* finde one that durst gather the fruit. Then *Vandermast* did raise the ghost of *Hercules* in his habit that he wore when that he was liuing, and with his Club on his shoulder: Here is one, said *Vandermast*, that shall gather fruit from this tree: this is *Hercules*, that in his life time gathered of this Fruit, and made the Dragon crouch: and now againe shall hee gather it in spite of all opposition. As *Hercules* was going to plucke the fruit, Fryer *Bacon* held up his wand, at which *Hercules* stayed and seemed fearful. *Vandermast* bid him for to gather of the fruit, or else he would torment him. *Hercules* was more fearfull, and said, I cannot, nor I dare not: for great *Bacon* stands, whose charms are farre more powerfull than thine, I must obey him *Vandermast*. Hereat *Vandermast* curst *Hercules*, and threatned him: But Fryer *Bacon* laughed, and bid not to chafe himself ere that his iourney was ended: for seeing (said he) that *Hercules* will doe nothing at your command, I will have him doe you some service at mine: with that he bid *Hercules* carry him home into Germany. The Diuell obeyed him, and tooke *Vandermast* on his backe, and went away with him in all their sights. Hold Fryer, cried the Ambassadour, I will not loose *Vandermast* for half my Land. Content yourself my Lord, answered Fryer *Bacon*, I have but sent him home to see his wife, and ere long he may returne. The King of England thanked Fryer *Bacon*, and

forced some gifts on him for his seruice that he had done for him: for Fryer *Bacon* did so little respect money, that he neuer would take any of the King.

How Fryer Bacon through his wisdom saued the endangered liues of three Brethren.

THE Peace being concluded betweene the King of England and the King of France, the King of England came againe into his Country of England, where he was received very joyfully of all his Subiects: But in his absence had happened a discord betweene three Brethren, the like hath not beene often heard. This it was: A rich Gentleman of England dyed, and left behind him three Sonnes. Now for some reason (which was best known to himselfe) he appointed none of them by name to be his heyre, but spake to them all after this manner: You are all my Sonnes, and I love you all as a Father should doe, all alike, not one better than the other: and cause I would alwayes doe rightly so neere as I can, I leave all my Lands and goods to him that loues me best: These were his last words that he spake concerning any worldly affaires.

After he was dead and buried, there arose a great controversie betwixt them, who should inherit their Fathers Goods and Lands, every one pleading for himselfe, how that he loued his Father best. All the cunning Lawyers of the Kingdome could say nothing to the purpose, concerning this case, so that they were inforced to begge of the King a grant for a combat: for they would not share the Lands and Goods among them, but euery one desired all or else nothing. The King seeing no other way to end this controversie, granted a combat: the two eldest being to fight first, and the conquerour to fight with the youngest, and the survivor of them was to haue the Land.

The day being come that was set for these combatants, they all came in armed for the fight. Friar *Bacon* being there present, and seeing such three lustie young men like to perish, and that by their owne flesh and blood, grieved very much, and went to

the King desiring his Maiestie that he would stay the fight, and he would finde a meanes without any bloodshed to end the matter: the King was very glad hereof, and caused the Combatants to be brought before him, to whom he said: Gentlemen, to saue the blood of you all, I have found a way, and yet the controuersie shall be ended that is now amongst you: Are you contented to stand to his Judgment that I shall appoint: they all answered, that they were. Then were they bid to returne three days after. In that time Fryer *Bacon* had caused the Body of their deceased Father to be taken out of the ground, and brought to the Court: the Body hee did cause to be bound to a Stake, naked to the middle vpwards and likewise prepared three Bowes and Shafts for the three Brethren: all these kept hee secretly.

The third day being come, came these three Brethren, to whom Fryer *Bacon* in the presence of the King gaue the three Bowes and Shafts, saying, Be not offended at what I have done, there is no other way but this to Judge your cause: See here is the body of your dead Father, shoot at him, for he that cometh nearest to his heart, shall have all the Lands and Goods.

The two eldest prepared themselues, and shot at him, and stucke their Arrowes in his Breast. Then bid they the youngest to shoot: but he refused it, saying, I will rather loose all, then wound that body that I so loued liuing: Had you euer had but halfe that loue (in you) to him that I haue, you would rather haue had your own bodies mangled, than to suffer his lifelesse Corps thus to be vsed; nay, you doe not onely suffer it, but you are the actors of this act of shame: and speaking this, he wept.

Fryer *Bacon* seeing this, did give the Judgment on his side, for he loved his Father best, and therefore had all his Lands and Goods: the other two Brothers went away with shame for what they had done. This deed of Fryer *Bacons* was highly commended of all men: for he did not onely giue true Judgment, but also saued much blood that would haue beene shed, had they beene suffered to haue fought.

forced some gifts on him for his seruice that he had done for him: for Fryer *Bacon* did so little respect money, that he neuer would take any of the King.

How Fryer Bacon through his wisdom saued the endangered liues of three Brethren.

THE Peace being concluded betweene the King of England and the King of France, the King of England came againe into his Country of England, where he was received very joyfully of all his Subjects: But in his absence had happened a discord betweene three Brethren, the like hath not beene often heard. This it was: A rich Gentleman of England dyed, and left behind him three Sonnes. Now for some reason (which was best known to himselfe) he appointed none of them by name to be his heyre, but spake to them all after this manner: You are all my Sonnes, and I love you all as a Father should doe, all alike, not one better than the other: and cause I would alwayes doe rightly so neere as I can, I leave all my Lands and goods to him that loues me best: These were his last words that he spake concerning any worldly affaires.

After he was dead and buried, there arose a great controversie betwixt them, who should inherit their Fathers Goods and Lands, every one pleading for himselfe, how that he loued his Father best. All the cunning Lawyers of the Kingdome could say nothing to the purpose, concerning this case, so that they were inforced to begge of the King a grant for a combat: for they would not share the Lands and Goods among them, but euey one desired all or else nothing. The King seeing no other way to end this controversie, granted a combat: the two eldest being to fight first, and the conquerour to fight with the youngest, and the survivor of them was to haue the Land.

The day being come that was set for these combatants, they all came in armed for the fight. Friar *Bacon* being there present, and seeing such three lustie young men like to perish, and that by their owne flesh and blood, grieved very much, and went to

the King desiring his Maiestie that he would stay the fight, and he would finde a meanes without any bloodshed to end the matter: the King was very glad hereof, and caused the Combatants to be brought before him, to whom he said: Gentlemen, to saue the blood of you all, I have found a way, and yet the controuersie shall be ended that is now amongst you: Are you contented to stand to his Judgment that I shall appoint: they all answered, that they were. Then were they bid to returne three days after. In that time Fryer *Bacon* had caused the Body of their deceased Father to be taken out of the ground, and brought to the Court: the Body hee did cause to be bound to a Stake, naked to the middle vpwards and likewise prepared three Bowes and Shaftis for the three Brethren: all these kept hee secretly.

The third day being come, came these three Brethren, to whom Fryer *Bacon* in the presence of the King gaue the three Bowes and Shaftis, saying, Be not offended at what I have done, there is no other way but this to Judge your cause: See here is the body of your dead Father, shoot at him, for he that cometh nearest to his heart, shall have all the Lands and Goods.

The two eldest prepared themselues, and shot at him, and stucke their Arrowes in his Breast. Then bid they the youngest to shoot: but he refused it, saying, I will rather loose all, then wound that body that I so loued liuing: Had you euer had but halfe that loue (in you) to him that I haue, you would rather haue had your own bodies mangled, than to suffer his lifelesse Corps thus to be vsed; nay, you doe not onely suffer it, but you are the actors of this act of shame: and speaking this, he wept.

Fryer *Bacon* seeing this, did give the Judgment on his side, for he loved his Father best, and therefore had all his Lands and Goods: the other two Brothers went away with shame for what they had done. This deed of Fryer *Bacons* was highly commended of all men: for he did not onely giue true Judgment, but also saued much blood that would haue beene shed, had they beene suffered to haue fought.

How Fryer Bacon served the Theeues that robbed him, and of the sport that his man Miles had with them.

IT was reported about the Countrey how that the King had given Fryer *Bacon* great store of Treasure. The report of this wealth made three Theeues plot to rob Fryer *Bacon*s house, which they put in practise one Euening in this fashion. They knockt at the doore and were let in by *Miles*: No sooner were they in, but they took hold of him, and led him into the house, and finding Fryer *Bacon* there, they told him that they came for some money, which they must and would have ere they departed from thence. He told them, that he was but ill stored with money at that time, and therefore desired them to forbear him till some other time. They answered him againe, that they knew that hee had enough, and therefore it was but folly to delay them, but straight let them haue it by faire meanes, or else they would vse that extremitie to him that hee would bee loth to suffer. Hee seeing them so resolute, told them that they should haue all that hee had, and gaue to them one hundred pounds a man. Herewith they seemed content, and would haue gone their wayes. Nay, said Fryer *Bacon*, I pray Gentlemen at my request tarry a little, and heare some of my mans Musicke: you are byred reasonable well already, I hope in courtesie you will not deny mee so small a request. That will wee not, (said they all.)

Miles thought now to haue some sport with them, which hee had, and therefore plaid lustily on his Tabor and Pipe: so soone as they heard him play (against their wills) they fell a dauncing and that after such a laborious manner, that they quickly wearied themselues (for they had all that while the bagges of money in their hands.) Yet had Fryer *Bacon* not reuenge enough of them, but bid his man *Miles* leave them some larger measure as hee thought fitting, which *Miles* did. *Miles* straight ledde them out of the house into the fields, they followed him, dauncing after a wilde Anticke manner: Then led hee them over a broad

dike full of water, and they followed him still, but not so good a way as he went (for he went over the Bridge, but they by reason of their dauncing, could not keepe the Bridge, but fell off, and dauncing through the water) then led hee them through a way where a horse might very well haue beene vp to the belly: they followed him, and were so durtie, as though they had wallowed in the myre like Swine: Sometime gaue hee them rest onely to laugh at them: then were they so sleepe when hee did not play, that they fell to the ground. Then on the sudden would hee play againe, and make them start vp and follow him. Thus kept hee them the better part of the night. At last hee in pittie left playing, and let them rest. They being asleepe on the bare ground he tooke their money from them, and gave them this Song for their farewell, To the tune of, *Oh doe me no harme good man.*

You roaring Boyes, and sturdy Theeues,
 you Pimpes, and Aples squires:
 Lament the case of these poor knaues,
 and warme them by your fires.

They snorting lye like Hogs in stie,
 but hardly are so warme:
 If all that cheat, such hap should meet,
 to true men 'twere no harme.

They money had, which made them glad,
 their ioy did not indure:
 Were all Theeues seru'd as these haue beene,
 I thinke there would bee fewer.

When that they wake, their hearts will ake,
 to thinke vpon their losse;
 And though the gallows they escape,
 they goe by weeping crosse.

Your Trulls expect your comming home
 with full and heauy purse:
 When that they see tis nothing so,
 oh how they'le rayle and curse.

For hee that loues to keepe a whore,
 must have a giving hand.
 Which makes a many knaves be choakt,
 for bidding true men stand.

They were scarce any thing the better for this Song, for they slept all the while: so *Miles* left them at their rest; but they had small cause to sleepe so soundly as they did, for they were more wett than ere was Scold with cucking. *Miles* gaue his Master his money againe, and told the story of their merry pilgrimage: he laughed at it, and wisht all men had the like power to serue all such knaues in the like kind. The theeues waking in the morning and missing their money, and seeing themselves in that plight, thought that they had been serued so by some diuine power, for robbing a Church-man, and therefore they swore one to the other, neuer to meddle with any Church-man againe.

How Vandermast, for the disgrace that he had receiued by Fryer Bacon sent a Souldier to kill him; and how Fryer Bacon escaped killing, and turned the Souldier from an Atheist to be a good Christian.

FRYER *Bacon* sitting one day in his Study, looked ouer all the dangers that were to happen to him that moneth, there found he, that in the second weeke of the moneth between Sunne rising and setting, there was a great danger to fall on him, which would without great care of preuention take away his life. This danger which he did foresee, was caused by the *Germane* Coniurer *Vandermast*, for he vowed a reuenge for the dis-

grace that he had received. To execute the same, hee hyred a *Walloon* Souldier, and gaue him one hundred crownes to do the same, fifty beforehand, and fifty when hee had killed him.

Fryer *Bacon*, to saue himselfe from this danger that was like to happen to him would alwayes when that he read, hold a ball of Brasse in his hand, and vnder that ball would hee set a bason of Brasse, that if hee did chance to sleepe in his reading, the fall of the Ball out of his hand into the Bason, might wake him. Being one day in his study in this manner, and asleepe, the *Walloon* Souldier was got in to him, and had drawne his sword to kill him: but as hee was ready for to strike, downe fell the Ball out of Fryer *Bacon*s hand, and waked him. Hee seeing the Souldier stand there with a sword drawne, asked him what hee was? and wherefore hee came there in that manner? The Souldier boldly answered him thus: I am a *Walloon*, and a Souldier, and more then this, a villaine: I am come hither, because I was sent; I was sent, because I was hyred: I was hyred, because I durst do it: the thing I should doe, is not done: the thing to be done, is to kill thee: thus haue you heard what I am and why I came. Fryer *Bacon* wondered at this man's resolution; then asked hee of him, who set him on worke to bee a murderer? Hee boldly told him, *Vandermast* the Germane Coniurer: Fryer *Bacon* then asked him what Religion he was of? He answered, Of that which many doe professe, the chief principles of which were these: to goe to an Ale-house, and to a Church with one deuotion, to abstaine from euil for want of action, and to doe good against their wills. It is a good profession for a deuil (said Fryer *Bacon*.) Doest thou belieue hell? I believe no such thing, answered the Souldier. Then will I shew thee the contrary, said the Fryer: and presently raised the ghost of *Iulian* the *Apostate*, who came up with his body burning, and so full of wounds, that it almost did affright the Souldier out of his wits. Then *Bacon* did command this spirit to speake, and to shew what hee was, and wherefore hee was thus tormented? Then spake hee to it in this manner: I sometimes was a Roman Emperour: some count greatnesse a happinesse: I had happinesse beyond my Empire, had I kept that, I had beene a happy man: would I had lost my Empire

when I lost that. I was a Christian, that was my happiness; but my selfe loue and pride made me to fall from it; for which I now am punished with neuer ceasing torments, which I must still endure: the like which I enioy is now prepared for unbeleuing wretches like myself, so vanished he away.

All this while the Souldier stood quaking, and sweat as he had felt the torments himselfe; and falling downe on his knees desired Fryer *Bacon* to instruct him in a better course of life, then he had yet gone in. Fryer *Bacon* told him, that he should not want his helpe in any thing, which he performed, instructing him better: then gaue he him money, and sent him to the warres of of the holy land, where he was slain.

How Fryer Bacon deceiued an old Vsurer.

NOT farre from Fryer *Bacon*, dwelt an olde man that had great store of money which hee let out to vse, and would neuer doe any good with it to the poore, though Fryer *Bacon* had often put him in minde of it, and wished him to do some good whilest he liued. Fryer *Bacon* seeing this, by his Art made an Iron pot, which seemed full of gold, this being done, he went to this rich Vsurer, and told him, that he had some gold which he had gathered in his time that he had liued; but it being much in quantity, hee feared that if it were knowne, it would be taken from him, because it was vnfitting a man of his coat should haue so much: Now he desired him that hee would let him haue some hundred pounds, which was not the sixth part of his gold, and he should kepe it for him. The Vsurer was glad to heare of this, and told him that he should haue it, and that he would keep his Gold as safe as he himself would: Fryer *Bacon* was glad to heare of this, and presently fetcht the pot: at the sight of which the Vsurer laughed, and thought to himself, how all that gold was his owne, for hee had a determination to gull the Fryer, but he gulled himselfe. See here is the gold (said Fryer *Bacon*) now let me haue of you one hundred pounds, and

keep you this gold till I pay it backe again. Very willingly (said the Vsurer) and told him one hundred pounds out, which Fryer Bacon tooke and deliuered him the note, and so went his way. This mony did Fryer Bacon giue to diuers poore schollers, and other people and bid them pray for old *Good-gatherers* soules health (so was this Vsurer call'd) which these poor people did, and would give him thankes and prayers when they met him, which he did wonder at; for he neuer deserved the praies of any man. At last this old *Good-gatherer* went to looke on this pot of gold, but instead of gold he found nothing but earth, at which sight he would haue died, had not his other gold hindred him, which hee was to leave behind him: so gathering vp his spirits, hee went to Fryer Bacon, and told him he was abused and cheated; for which he would haue the law of him, vnlesse he made him restitution. Fryer Bacon told him, that he had not cheated him, but bin his faithful steward to the poore, which he could not chuse but know, either by their prayers, or their thanks; and as for the law he feared it not, but bid him doe his worst. The old man seeing Fryer Bacons resolution, went his way, and said, that hereafter hee would be his owne steward.

How Miles, Fryer Bacons man did coniure for meat, and got meat for himselfe and his Hoast.

MILES chanced one day vpon some businesse, to goe some six miles from home, and being loth to part with some company that he had, he was be-lated, and could get but halfe way home that night: to saue his purse hee went to ones house that was his Masters acquaintance: but when he came, the good man of the house was not at home, and the woman would not let him have lodging. *Miles* seeing such cold entertainment wished he had not troubled her, but being now there, he was loth to goe any further and therefore with good words he perswaded her for to give him lodging that night. She told him that she would willingly do it, if her husband were at home, but he being

now out of towne, it would be to her discredit to lodge any man. You neede not mistrust me, (said *Miles*) for I haue no thought to attempt your chastitie: locke me in any place where there is a bed, and I will not trouble you till to morrow that I rise. She thinking her husband would be angry if she should deny any of his friends so small a request, consented that he should lye there, if that he would be locked vp: *Miles* was contented and presently went to bed, and she locked him into the chamber where he lay.

Long had not he beene a bed, but he heard the doore open; with that he rose and peeped through a chinke of the partition, and saw an old man come in: this man set down his Basket that he had on his arme, and gaue the woman of the house three or four sweet kisses, which made *Miles* his mouth runne with water to see it: Then did hee vndoe his Basket, and pulled out of it a fat Capon ready roasted, and Bread, with a bottle of good olde Sacke: this gaue hee vnto her, saying: Sweetheart, hearing thy Husband was out of towne, I thought good to visite thee, I am not come emptie handed, but haue brought some thing to be merrie withal: lay the clothe sweete Hony, and let vs first to Banquet, and then to bed. She kindly thanked him, and presently did as he bad her: They were not scarce set at the Table, but her husband returning backe, knockt at the doore. The woman hearing this was amazed, and knew not what to doe with her old Lover: but looking on her apron strings, she straight found (as women vse to doo) a trick to put herself free from this feare? for shee put her Louer vnder the bed, the Capon and Bread she put under a Tub, the bottle of Wine shee put behinde the Chest, and then she did open the doore, and with a dissembling kisse welcomed her husband home, asking him the reason why that he returned so quickly. He told her, that hee had forgot the money that he should haue carried with him, but on the morrow betimes hee would be gone. *Miles* saw and heard all this: and hauing a desire to taste of the Capon and the Wine, called to the Goodman. He asked his wife who that was? She told him, an acquaintance of his, that intreated lodging there that night. He bid her open the door, which she did, and let *Miles* out. Hee seeing *Miles* there, bid him welcome, and bade

his wife to set them some meate on the table: she told him that there was not any ready, but prayed him to kepe his stomacke till morrow, and then she would provide them a good breakefast. Since it is so *Miles* (said the goodman) wee must rest contented, and sleepe out our hunger. Nay stay said *Miles*, if that you can eate, I can find you good meat; I am a Scholler, and haue some Art. I would faine see it (said the goodman) You shall quoth *Miles*, and that presently. With that *Miles* pulled forth a booke out of his bosome, and began his Coniuration in this fashion:

From the fearefull Lake below,
From whence Spirits come and goe;
Straightway come one and attend
Fryer *Bacons* man, and friend.

Comes there none yet, quoth *Miles*? then I must vse some other Charme.

Now the Owle is flowne abroad,
For I heare the croaking Toade,
And the Bat that shuns the day,
Through the darke doth make her way.
Now the ghosts of men doe rise,
And with fearful hideous cryes,
Seeke reuengement (from the good)
On their heads that spilt their blood,
Come some Spirit, quicke I say,
Night's the Devils Holy-day:
Where ere you be, in dennes, or lake,
In the Iuy, Ewe, or Brake:
Quickly come and me attend,
That am *Bacons* man and friend.
But I will haue you take no shape
Of a Beare, a Horse, or Ape:
Nor will I haue you terrible,
And therefore come invisible.

Now is he come, (quoth *Miles*) and therefore tell me what meat you will haue mine Hoast? Any thing *Miles*, (said the Goode-man) what thou wilt. Why then (said *Miles*) what say you to a Capon? I loue it aboue all meat (said the Goodman.) Why then a Capon you shall haue, and that a good one too. *Bemo* my spirit that I have raised to doe mee seruice, I charge thee, seeke and search about the earth, and bring me hither straight the best of Capons ready roasted. Then stood hee still a little, as though he had attended the comming of his spirit, and on the sudden said: It is well done my *Bemo*, hee hath brought me (mine Hoast, a fat Capon from the King of *Tripolis* owne Table, and bread with it. Aye, but where is it *Miles* (said the Hoast) I see neither Spirit nor Capon. Looke under the Tub (quoth *Miles*) and there you shall finde it. He presently did, and brought (to his wiues grieffe) the Capon and Bread out. Stay (quoth *Miles*) we do yet want some drinke that is comfortable and good; I think (mine Hoast) a bottle of Maliga Sacke were not amisse, I will haue it: *Bemo*, haste thee to Maliga, and fetch me from the Governours, a Bottle of his best Sacke. The poore woman thought that hee would haue betrayed her and her louer, and therefore wished that he had beene hanged, when that hee came first into her house. Hee hauing stood a little while, as before, saide: Well done, *Bemo*, looke behinde the great chest (mine Hoast) Hee did so, and brought out the Bottle of Sacke. Now (quoth hee) *Miles* sit downe, and welcome to thine owne Cheere: You may see wife (quoth he) what a man of Art can doe, get a fatte Capon, and a Bottle of good Sacke in a quarter of an houre, and for nothing, which is best of all: Come (good wife) sit downe, and bee merry; for all this is paid for, I thanke *Miles*.

Shee sate, but could not eat a bit for anger, but wished that every bit they did eate might choake them: Her old Louer too that lay vnder the bed all this while, was ready to bepisse himselfe for feare, for hee still looked when that *Miles* would discover him. When they had eaten and drunke well, the good man desired *Miles* that hee would let him see the Spirit that fetched them this good cheere: *Miles* seemed vnwilling, telling him that

it was against the Lawes of Art, to let an illiterate man see a Spirit, but yet, for once hee would let him see it: and told him withall, that hee must open the door, and soundly beat the Spirit: or else hee should bee troubled hereafter with it: and because he should not feare it, hee would put it in the shape of some one of his neighbours. The Good man told him, that hee neede not to doubt his valour, he would beat him soundly, and to that purpose hee took a good Cudgell in his hand, and did stande ready for him. *Miles* then went to the bed side, vnder which the old man lay, and began to coniure him with these words,

Bemo quickly come, appeare,
 Like an old man that dwells neere:
 Quickly rise, and in his shape,
 From this house make thy escape;
 Quickly rise, or else I sweare,
 Ile put thee in a worsser feare.

The old man seeing no remedy, but that hee must needes come forth, put a good face on it, and rose from under the bed: Behold my Spirit (quoth *Miles*) that brought me all that you haue had; Now bee as good as your word and swaddle him soundly. I protest (said the Goodman) your Deuill is as like Goodman *Stumpe* the Tooth-drawer, as a Pomewater is like an Apple: Is it possible that your Spirits can take other mens shapes: Ile teach this to keepe his owne shape; with that hee beat the old man soundly, so that *Miles* was faine to take him off, and put the old man out of doore, so after some laughing, to bed they all went: but the woman could not sleepe for grieffe, that her old Louer had had such bad usage for her sake.

How Fryer Bacon did helpe a young man to his Sweetheart, which Fryer Bungye would have married to another; and of the mirth that was at the wedding.

AN *Oxfordshire* Gentleman had long time loued a faire Mayde, called *Millisant*; this loue of his was as kindly receiued of her, as it was freely giuen of him, so that there wanted nothing to the finishing of their ioyes, but the consent of her Father, who would not grant that she should bee his wife (though formerly he had been a meanes to further the match) by reason there was a Knight that was a suitor to her, and did desire that hee might haue her to his wife: But this Knight could neuer get from her the least token of good will: so surely was her loue fixed vpon the Gentleman. This Knight seeing himselfe thus despised, went to Fryer *Bungye*, and told him his mind, and did promise him a good piece of money if he could get her for him, either by his Art, or Counsell.

Bungye (being couetous) told him, that there was no better way in his mind, than to get her with her Father to go take the ayre in a Coach: and if hee could doe so, he would by his Art so direct the horses, that they should come to an old Chappell, where hee would attend, and there they might secretly be married. The Knight rewarded him for his counsell, and told him, that if it tooke effect, he would be more bountifull unto him, and presently went to her Father, and told him of this. Hee liked well of it, and forced the poore Maid to ride with them. So soone as they were in the Coach, the horses ran presently to the Chappell, where they found Fryer *Bungye* attending for them: At the sight of the Church and the Priest, the poore Maid knew that she was betraid, so that for grieffe shee fell in a swound: to see which her Father and the Knight, were very much griued, and vsed their best skill for her recouery.

In this time, her best Beloued, the Gentleman, did come to her Father's to visit her, but finding her not there! and hearing that she was gone with her Father, and the Knight, he mistrusted some foul play: and in all hast went to Fryer *Bacon*, and desired

of him some help to recouer his Loue againe, whom he feared was utterly lost.

Fryer *Bacon* (knowing him for a vertuous Gentleman) pittied him; and to giue his griefes some release, shewed him a Glasse, wherein any one might see any thing done (within fifty miles space) that they desired: So soone as he looked in the Glasse, hee saw his Loue *Millisant* with her Father, and the Knight, ready to be married by Fryer *Bungye*: At the sight of this hee cryed out that he was vndone, for now should he lose his life in losing of his Loue. Fryer *Bacon* bids him take comfort, for he would preuent the marriage; so taking this Gentleman in his armes, he set himselfe downe in an enchanted Chaire, and suddenly they were carried through the ayre to the Chappell. Just as they came in, Fryer *Bungye* was ioyning their hands to marry them: but Fryer *Bacon* spoyled his speech, for he strucke him dumbe, so that he could not speake a worde. Then raised he a myst in the Chappell, so that neither the Father could see his Daughter, nor the Daughter her Father, nor the Knight either of them. Then tooke he *Millisant* by the hand, and led her to the man she most desired: they both wept for ioy, that they so happily once more had met, and kindly thanked Fryer *Bacon*.

It greatly pleased Fryer *Bacon* to see the passion of these two Louers, and seeing them both contented, he marryed them at the Chappell doore, whilst her Father, the Knight, and Fryer *Bungye* went groping within, and could not find the way out. Now when he had married them, he bid them get lodging at the next Village, and he would send his man with money: (for the Gentleman was not stored, and he had a great way to his house) they did as he bad them. That night hee sent his man *Miles* with money to them; but he kept her Father, the Knight, and Fryer *Bungey* till the next day at noon in the Chappell, ere he released them.

The Gentleman and his new married wife made that night a great Supper for ioy of their marriage, and bid to it most of the Village: They wanted nothing but Musicke, for which they made great moane. This want, Fryer *Bacon* (though he was absent) supplied: For after Supper there came such a Maske,

that the like was neuer seene in that Village: For first, there was heard most sweet still Musicke, then wind Musicke: Then came three Apes, and three Monkeys, each of them carrying a Torch: after them followed sixe Apes and Monkeys more, all dressed in Anticke coats: these last sixe fell a dancing in such an odde manner, that they moued all the beholders to much laughter: so after diuers Antick changes, they did reuerence to the Bridegroome and Bride, and so departed in order as they came in. They all did maruell from whence these should come: but the Bridegroome knew that it was Fryer *Bacons* Art that gaue them this grace to their Wedding. When all was done, to bed they went, and enioyed their wishes. The next day he went home to his owne house with his Bride: and for the cost he had bestowed on them, most part of the Townes-folke brought them on their way.

Miles made one amongst them too; he for his Masters sake was so plyed with Cups, that he in three dayes was scarce sober: for his welcome, at his departure he gaue them this song: To the tune of, *I haue beene a Fiddler, &c.*

And did not you heare of a mirth that befell,
the morrow after a wedding day:
At carrying a Bride at home to dwell,
and away to Twiuer, away, away?

The Quintin was set, and the garlands were made,
'tis a pity old custome should euer decay:
And woe be to him that was horst on a Iade,
for he carried no credit away, away.

We met a consort of Fiddle-de-dees,
we set them a cock-horse, and made them to play,
The winning of Bullen, and Vpsie-frees,
and away to Twiuer away, away.

There was ne'er a Lad in all the Parish,
 that would goe to the Plow that day :
 But on his Fore-horse his Wench he carries,
 and away to Twiuer, away, away.

The Butler was quicke, and the Ale he did tap,
 the Maidens did make the chamber full gay :
 The Serving-men gaue me a Fudding Cap,
 and I did carye it away, away.

The Smith of the Townte his Liquor so tooke,
 that he was perswaded the ground look'd blue,
 And I dare boldly to sweare on a booke,
 such Smiths as he there are but a few.

A Posset was made, and the women did sip,
 and simpering said they could eate no more :
 Full many a maid was laid on the lip :
 Ile say no more, but so giue o're.

They kindly thanked *Miles* for his Song, and so sent him home with a Foxe at his Tayle. His Master asked him, Where he had beene so long? He told him at the Wedding. I know it, (said Fryer Bacon) that thou hast beene there, and I know also (thou beast) that thou hast been euery day drunke. That is the worst that you can say by me, Master, for still poore men must be drunke, if that they take a cup more than ordinary; but it is not so with the rich. Why how is it with the rich then? I will tell you (said *Miles*) in few words,

Lawyers they are sicke,
 And Fryers are ill at ease ;
 But poore men they are drunke,
 And all is one disease.

Well sirrab (said Fryer Bacon) let me not heare that you are infected any more with this disease, lest I giue you sowre sawce

to your sweet meat. Thus did Fryer *Bacon* helpe these poore Louers, who in short time got the loue of the old man, and liued in great ioy: Fryer *Bungye's* tongue was againe let loose, and all were friends.

How Vandermast and Fryer Bungye met, and how they striued who should excel one another in their Coniurations; and of their deaths.

VANDERMAST thinking that Fryer *Bacon* had beene dead, came into England, and in Kent met with Fryer *Bungye*: he owing him no good will for Fryer *Bacons* sake, took his horse out of the Stable, and instead of it, left a Spirit like vnto it. Fryer *Bungye* in the morning rose, and mounting this Spirit, (which he thought had beene his Horse) rode on his iourney: but he riding through a water, was left in the midst of it by this Spirit; and being thus wet, hee returned to his Inne. At the Inne doore, *Vandermast* met him, and asked him, if that were swimming time of the year? *Bungye* told him, If that he had been so well horsed as he was, when Fryer *Bacon* sent him into *Germany*, he might have escaped that washing. At this *Vandermast* bit his lip, and said no more, but went in. *Bungye* thought that he would be euen with him, which was in this manner. *Vandermast* loued a Wench well, which was in the house, and sought many times to winne her for gold, loue, or promises. *Bungye* knowing this, did shape a Spirit like this Wench, which he sent to *Vandermast*. *Vandermast* appointed the Spirit (thinking it had beene the Wench) to come to his Chamber that night, and was very ioyful that he should enioy her now at the last: but his ioy turned into sorrow, and his wanton hopes into a bad nights lodging: for Fryer *Bungye* had by his Art spread such a sheet on his bed, that no sooner was he laid with the Spirit on it, but it was carryed through the ayre, and let fall into a deepe Pond, where *Vandermast* had been drowned, if he had not had the Art of swimming: He got quickly out of the Pond, and shook himselfe like a rough Water-Spanniel; but being out, he

was as much vexed as before, for he could not tell the way home, but was glad to keepe himselfe in heat that night with walking. Next day he comming to his Inne, Fryer *Bungye* asked him how he did like his Wench? he said, So well, that he wished him such another. *Bungye* told him, that his Order did forbid him the vse of any, and therefore he might keepe them for his friends: Thus did they continually vexe each other, both in words, and ill actions. *Vandermast* desiring to do Fryer *Bungye* a mischief, did challenge him to the field (not to fight at Sword and Dagger, single Rapier, or case of Poinyards, but at worsers weapons farre, it was at that diabolical Art of Magicke) there to shew which of them was most cunning, or had most power ouer the Deuill: *Bungye* accepted of his challenge, and both prouided themselues of things belonging to the Art, and to the field they went.

There they both spred their Circles some hundred foot from one another: and after some other Ceremonies did *Vandermast* begin: Hee by his Charmes did raise vp a fiery Dragon, which did runne about Fryer *Bungyes* Circle, and did scorch him with his heat so that he was almost ready to melt. Fryer *Bungye* tormented *Vandermast* in another Element: for he raised vp the Sea-monster that *Perseus* killed, when he did redeem the faire *Andromeda*. This Sea-monster did run about *Vandermast*, and such flouds of water did he send out of his wide mouth, that *Vandermast* was almost drowned. Then did Fryer *Bungye* raise a Spirit vp like Saint *George*, who fought with the Dragon, and killed it: *Vandermast* (following his example) raysed vp *Perseus*, who fought also with his Sea-monster, and killed it, so were they both released from their danger.

They being not contented with this tryall of their skill, went further in their Coniurations, and raised vp two Spirits, each of them one. *Bungye* charged his Spirit for to assist him with the greatest power hee had, that by it he might be able to ouercome *Vandermast*. The Deuill told him he would, if that he from his left arme would giue him but three drops of blood: but if that he did deny him that, then should *Vandermast* have power ouer him to doe what he would: The like told *Vandermasts* Deuill to

him: to this demand of the Spirits, they both agreed, thinking for to ouercome each other; but the Deuill ouerthrew them both.

They hauing giuen the Deuil this bloud, as is before spoken of, they both fell againe to their Coniurations: First, *Bungye* did rayse *Achilles* with his *Greekes*, who marched about *Vandermast* and threatned him. Then *Vandermast* raised *Hector* with his *Troians*, who defended him from *Achilles* and the *Greekes*. Then began there a great battell between the *Greekes* and *Troians*, which continued a good space: At last *Hector* was slaine, and the *Troians* fled. Then did follow a great tempest, with thundering and lightning, so that the two Coniurers wished that they had been away. But wishes were in vaine: for now the time was come, that the Deuill would be paid for the knowledge that he had lent them, he would not tarry any longer, but then tooke them in the height of their wickednesse, and bereft them of their liues.

When the Tempest was ended, (which did greatly affright the Townes there by) the Townesmen found the bodies of these two men, (*Vandermast* and *Bungey*) breathlesse, and strangely burnt with fire. The one had Christian buriall, because of his Order sake: the other, because he was a stranger. Thus was the end of these two famous Coniurers.

How Miles would coniure for money, and how he broke his legge for feare.

MILES one day finding his Masters Study open, stole out of it one of his Coniuring-Bookes: with this Booke would *Miles* needes coniure for some money: (for he saw that his Master had money enough, and he desired the like, which did make him bold to trouble one of his Masters Deuils:) in a private place he thought it best to doe it: therefore he went vp to the top of the house, and there began to reade: Long had he not read, but a Deuill came to him in an vgly shape, and asked him what he would haue? *Miles* being affrighted, could not speake, but stood quaking there like an Aspin leafe: the Deuill

seeing him so, (to increase his feare) raised a tempest, and hurled fire about, which made *Miles* leape from off the Leades, and with his fall broke his legge.

Fryer *Bacon* hearing this noyse, ranne forth, and found his man *Miles* on the ground, and the Deuill hurling fire on the house top. First laid he the Deuill againe: Then went he to his man and asked how hee got that broken legge? Hee told him his Deuill did it: for he had frighted him, and made him leape off from the house top. What didst thou there, (said his Master?) I went to coniure, Sir (said *Miles*) for money; but I haue got nothing but a broken legge; and I now must beg for money to cure that, if you be not the more pittifull to me. I haue oftentimes giuen you warning not to meddle with my bookes (said his Master) and yet you will still be doing: take heed, you had best, how you deale with the Deuil againe: for he that had power to breake your legge will breake your necke, if you againe doe meddle with him: for this I doe forgiue you: for your legge breaking hath paid for your sawcinesse: and though I gaue you not a broken head, I will giue you a plaister: and so sent him to the Chirurgions.

How two young Gentlemen that came to Fryer Bacon, to know how their fathers did, killed one another; and how Fryer Bacon for grieffe, did, breake his rare Glasse, wherein he could see any thing that was done within fifty miles about him.

IT is spoken of before now, that Fryer *Bacon* had a Glasse, which was of that excellent nature, that any man might behold any thing that he desired to see within the compasse of fifty miles round about him: With this Glasse he had pleased diuers kinds of people: for Fathers did oftentimes desire to see (thereby) how their Children did, and Children how their Parents did; one Friend how another did; and one enemy (sometimes) how his Enemy did: so that from far they would come to see this wonderfull Glasse. It happened one day, that there came to him two young Gentlemen, (that were Countrey men, and Neigh-

bors children) for to know of him by his Glasse, how their Fathers did: Hee being no niggard of his cunning, let them see his Glasse, wherein they straight beheld their wishes, which they (through their owne follies) bought at their lives losses, as you shall heare.

The Fathers of these two Gentlemen, (in their Sonnes absence) were become great foes: this hatred betweene them was growne to that height, that wheresoeuer they met, they had not onely wordes, but blowes: Just at that time, as it should seeme, that their Sonnes were looking to see how they were in health, they were met, and had drawne, and were together by the eares. Their Sonnes seeing this, and hauing been alwayes great friends, knew not what to say to one another, but beheld each other with angry lookes: At last, one of their Fathers, as they might perceiue in the Glasse, had a fall, and the other taking aduantage, stood ouer him ready to strike him: The Sonne of him that was downe, could then containe himselfe no longer, but told the other young man, this his Father had receiued wrong. He answered againe, that it was faire. At last there grew such foule words betweene them, and their bloods were so heated, that they presently stabbed one the other with their Daggers, and so fell downe dead.

Fryer *Bacon* seeing them fall, ranne to them, but it was too late for they were breathlesse ere he came. This made him to grieue exceedingly: he iudging that they had receiued the cause of their deaths by this Glasse, tooke the Glasse in his hand, and vttered words to this effect:

Wretched *Bacon*, wretched in thy knowledge, in thy vnderstanding wretched; for thy Art hath beene the ruine of these two Gentlemen. Had I been busied in those holy things, the which mine order tyes me to, I had not had that time that made this wicked Glasse: Wicked I well may call it, that is the causer of so vile an Act: would it were sensible, then should it feele my wrath; but being as it is, Ile ruin it for ruining of them: and with that he broke his rare and wonderfull Glasse, whose like the whole world had not. In this grief of his, came there newes to him of the deaths of *Vandermast* and Fryer *Bungey*: This did

increase his griefe, and made him sorrowfull, that in three days he would not eate any thing but kept his Chamber.

How Fryer Bacon burnt his books of Magick, and gave himselfe to the study of Diuinity only; and how he turned Anchorite.

IN the time that Fryer *Bacon* kept his Chamber, hee fell into diuers meditations: sometimes into the vanity of Arts and Sciences: then would hee condemne himselfe for studying of those things that were so contrary to his Order and Soules health; and would say, that Magicke made a Man a Deuill: sometimes would hee meditate on Diuinity; then would he cry out vpon himselfe, for neglecting the study of it, and for studying Magick: sometime would he meditate on the shortnesse of mans life, then would he condemne himselfe for spending a time so short, so ill as he had done his: so would he goe from one thing to another and in all condemne his former studies.

And that the world should know how truly he did repent his wicked life, he caused to be made a great fire; and sending for many of his Friends, Schollers, and others, he spake to them after this manner: My good Friends and fellow Students, it is not vnknowne vnto you, how that through my Art I haue attained to that credit, that few men liuing euer had: Of the wonders that I haue done, all England can speak, both King and Commons: I haue unlocked the secret of Art and nature, and let the world see those things, that haue layen hid since the death of *Hermes*, that rare and profound Philosopher: My Studies haue found the secrets of the Starres; the Bookes that I haue made of them, doe serue for Presidents to our greatest Doctors, so excellent hath my Judgment beene therein. I likewise haue found out the secrets of Trees, Plants and Stones, with their seuerall vses; yet all this knowledge of mine I esteeme so lightly, that I wish that I were ignorant, and knew nothing: for the knowledge of these things, (as I haue truly found) serueth not to better a man in goodnesse, but onely to make him proud and thinke too well of himselfe. What hath all my knowledge of natures secrets gained

bors children) for to know of him by his Glasse, how their Fathers did: Hee being no niggard of his cunning, let them see his Glasse, wherein they straight beheld their wishes, which they (through their owne follies) bought at their lives losses, as you shall heare.

The Fathers of these two Gentlemen, (in their Sonnes absence) were become great foes: this hatred betweene them was growne to that height, that wheresoeuer they met, they had not onely wordes, but blowes: Just at that time, as it should seeme, that their Sonnes were looking to see how they were in health, they were met, and had drawne, and were together by the eares. Their Sonnes seeing this, and hauing been alwayes great friends, knew not what to say to one another, but beheld each other with angry lookes: At last, one of their Fathers, as they might perceiue in the Glasse, had a fall, and the other taking aduantage, stood ouer him ready to strike him: The Sonne of him that was downe, could then containe himselfe no longer, but told the other young man, this his Father had receiued wrong. He answered againe, that it was faire. At last there grew such foule words betweene them, and their bloods were so heated, that they presently stabbed one the other with their Daggers, and so fell downe dead.

Fryer *Bacon* seeing them fall, ranne to them, but it was too late for they were breathlesse ere he came. This made him to grieue exceedingly: he iudging that they had receiued the cause of their deaths by this Glasse, tooke the Glasse in his hand, and vttered words to this effect:

Wretched *Bacon*, wretched in thy knowledge, in thy vnderstanding wretched; for thy Art hath beene the ruine of these two Gentlemen. Had I been busied in those holy things, the which mine order tyes me to, I had not had that time that made this wicked Glasse: Wicked I well may call it, that is the causer of so vile an Act: would it were sensible, then should it feele my wrath; but being as it is, Ile ruin it for ruining of them: and with that he broke his rare and wonderfull Glasse, whose like the whole world had not. In this grief of his, came there newes to him of the deaths of *Vandermast* and Fryer *Bungey*: This did

increase his griefe, and made him sorrowfull, that in three days he would not eate any thing but kept his Chamber.

How Fryer Bacon burnt his books of Magick, and gave himselfe to the study of Diuinity only; and how he turned Anchorite.

IN the time that Fryer Bacon kept his Chamber, hee fell into diuers meditations: sometimes into the vanity of Arts and Sciences: then would hee condemne himselfe for studying of those things that were so contrary to his Order and Soules health; and would say, that Magicke made a Man a Deuill: sometimes would hee meditate on Diuinity; then would he cry out vpon himselfe, for neglecting the study of it, and for studying Magick: sometime would he meditate on the shortnesse of mans life, then would he condemne himselfe for spending a time so short, so ill as he had done his: so would he goe from one thing to another and in all condemne his former studies.

And that the world should know how truly he did repent his wicked life, he caused to be made a great fire; and sending for many of his Friends, Schollers, and others, he spake to them after this manner: My good Friends and fellow Students, it is not vnknowne vnto you, how that through my Art I haue attained to that credit, that few men liuing euer had: Of the wonders that I haue done, all England can speak, both King and Commons: I haue unlocked the secret of Art and nature, and let the world see those things, that haue layen hid since the death of *Hermes*, that rare and profound Philosopher: My Studies haue found the secrets of the Starres; the Bookes that I haue made of them, doe serue for Presidents to our greatest Doctors, so excellent hath my Judgment beene therein. I likewise haue found out the secrets of Trees, Plants and Stones, with their seuerall vses; yet all this knowledge of mine I esteeme so lightly, that I wish that I were ignorant, and knew nothing: for the knowledge of these things, (as I haue truly found) serueth not to better a man in goodnesse, but onely to make him proud and thinke too well of himselfe. What hath all my knowledge of natures secrets gained

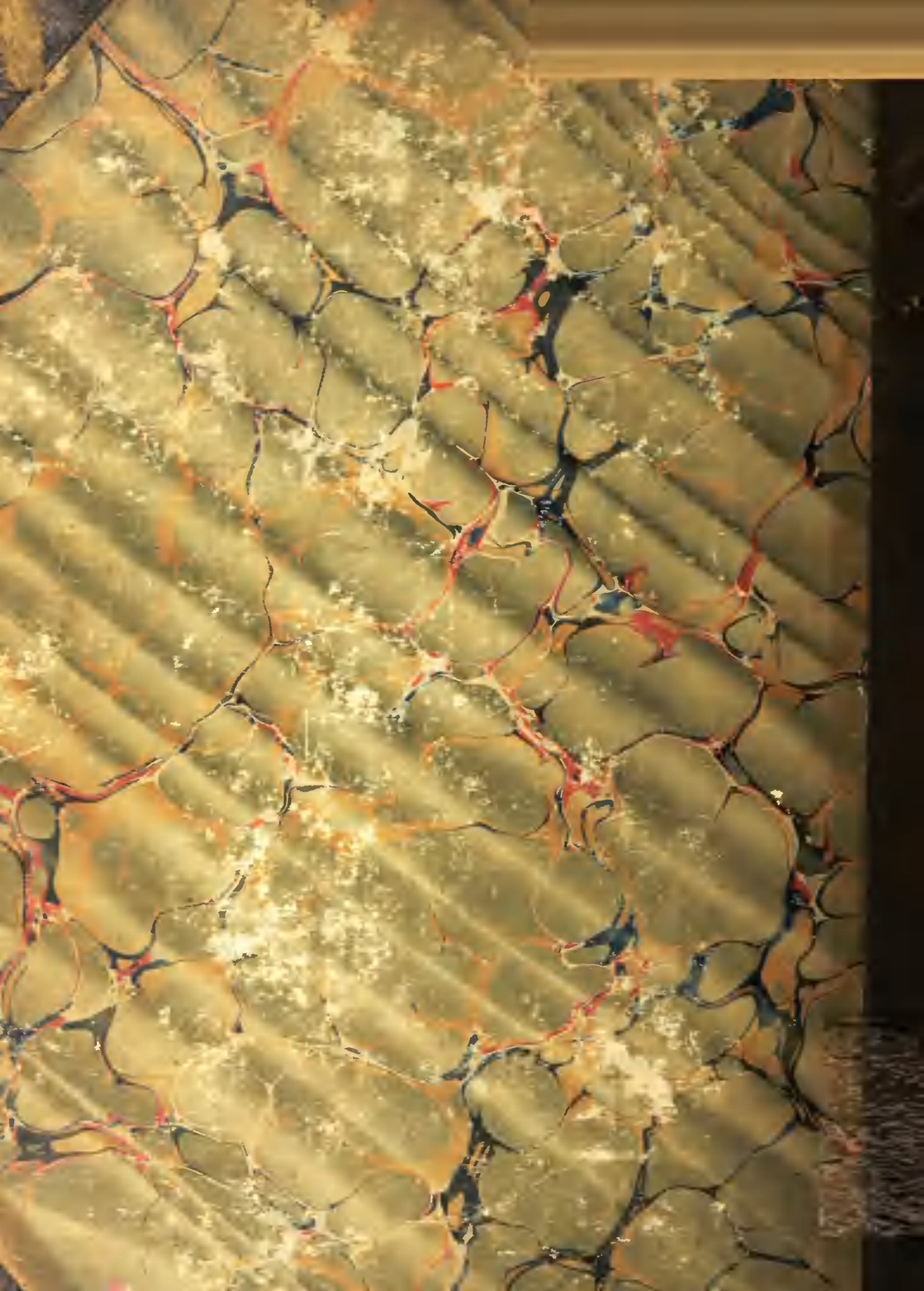
me? Onely this, the losse of a better knowledge, the losse of diuine Studies, which makes the immortall part of man (his Soule) blessed. I haue found, that my knowledge has beene a heauy burden, and has kept downe my good thoughts: but I will remoue the cause, which are these Bookes: which I doe purpose here before you all to burne. They all intreated him to spare the Bookes, because in them there were those things that after-ages might receiue great benefit by. He would not hearken vnto them, but threw them all into the fire, and in that flame burnt the greatest learning in the world. Then did he dispose of all his goods; some part he gaue to poor Schollers, and some he gaue to other poore folkes: nothing left he for himselfe: then caused he to be made in the Church-wall a Cell, where he locked himselfe in, and there remained till his death. His time hee spent in Prayer, Meditation, and such Diuine Exercises, and did seeke by all means to perswade men from the study of Magicke. Thus liued he some two yeeres space in that Cell, neuer comming forth: his meat and drink he receiued in at a window, and at that window he did discourse with those that came to him; His graue he digged with his owne nayles, and was laid there when he dyed. Thus was the Life and Death of this famous Fryer, who liued most part of his life a Magician, and dyed a true penitent Sinner, and an Anchorite.

FINIS

THE HISTORY OF

The history of the city of London, from the first settlement of the Britons, to the present time. The first part of the history is divided into three periods, the first of which is the period of the Britons, the second of the Saxons, and the third of the Normans. The second part of the history is divided into three periods, the first of which is the period of the Plantagenets, the second of the Tudors, and the third of the Stuarts. The third part of the history is divided into three periods, the first of which is the period of the Stuarts, the second of the Hanoverians, and the third of the present reign. The history is written in a plain and simple style, and is intended to be a useful and interesting work to all who are interested in the history of the city of London.





GretagMachbeth™ ColorChecker Color Rendition Chart

